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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of: Simone, Jr. et al.

RECEIVED

Serial No.: 09/658,016

MAY 06 2003

Filing Date: September 8, 2000

Technology Center 2100

Group Art Unit: 2171

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING
ACCURATE AUTOMATED PROCESSING OF DATA

Honorable Commissioner
for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of these references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), no representation is made that these references qualify as prior art or that these references are material to the patentability of the present application.

Enclosed is a copy of a PCT International Search Report identifying the references contained in this Information Disclosure Statement. The PCT International Search Report has a mailing date of April 8, 2003. Therefore, I hereby certify

that the references contained in this Information Disclosure Statement were cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a related foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Furthermore, in the event a patent term adjustment is requested, pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.704, Applicants submit that the references contained in this Information Disclosure Statement were received from a foreign patent office in a related foreign application not more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance. Therefore, Applicants believe that no fee is due. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
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